



4-11-2017

April 11, 2017

The Dakota Student

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Recommended Citation

The Dakota Student, "April 11, 2017" (2017). *The Dakota Student*. 123.
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Student government candidates in the final stretch

Sheldon Hatlen

The Dakota Student

Campaigns for student body president are coming to an end, with the vote being held April 12. The candidates remain active, as they were

able to get together for a forum Thursday night, April 6.

The forum was held at Rhombus Guys Brewery in downtown Grand Forks, starting at 6 p.m. and running to just after 8 p.m. The theme of the night was diversity and inclusion as well as women's

safety.

Roughly 20 people were in attendance to participate in the events. Unfortunately, presidential candidate John Bjorklund, was unable to attend the forum due to conflicting schedules with his drill training for the Army. Bjorklund's

vice presidential running mate Dave Owen was able to answer questions on his behalf.

"John is a military man," Owen said. "So he has what is called drill. Every now and then, John has to go, for about a week, to drill and train, so he can protect us. He is a veteran,

continues on page 2

Movie tickets courtesy of Student Involvement

Rachel Cox

The Dakota Student

The River Cinema and UND's Student Involvement and Leadership Office have been working together for three years to try to keep students engaged in activities to improve retention rates by giving them free movie tickets.

"Research shows that students who are engaged in things stay in school," said Sara Kaiser, coordinator of Student Organizations and Activities.

Before the free movie tickets, the university used to rent movies from a company called Swank Motion Pictures. With this program, movies would be set up in the lecture bowl or ballroom at the Memorial Union and students would watch the movie that was shown that night.

The problem with this program was that it cost around \$1,000 and there wouldn't be a large enough crowd to make the event worth the money.

After realizing this issue, Kaiser approached Penny Stai, the manager of The River Cinema, and asked if there were other options.

Together, Stai and UND came up with the free movie ticket program. The university buys discounted tickets from The River Cinema and then lets students pick them up for free with their student ID.

Kaiser said the Student Involvement and Leadership Office prints out 2,000 tickets and hands them to students who stop by the office. UND reimburses The River Cinema for tickets that are actually used.

While this is significantly more money than renting one movie and showing it in the lecture bowl, instead of 20 students showing up, this event will bring over 1,000 each time there's a movie night.

The money for this event comes from UND student government. The office is allocated over \$100,000 for events and activities like the free movie nights.

Maggie Powell, a freshman biology major, said she enjoys that she has something fun to go to with her friends.

"I've never gone by myself,"

continues on page 3



Daniel Yun / Dakota Student

The 'It's On Us' campaign, which raises awareness about sexual assault on campus, took place at UND on April 6 and 7.



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Vitoria Faccin spins one of the dresses she created during a BFA exhibition Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at Hughes Fine Arts Center.

Weather Report April 11 to April 15

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
55 / 35 Mostly Sunny	61 / 36 Partly Cloudy	61 / 45 Mostly Sunny	63 / 47 Mostly Cloudy	61 / 33 Partly Cloudy

1 | Forum

but he’s still a part of the Army. As a result, he has to go to drill in order to learn the skills he needs to protect our country. Drill just happened to be this week, so it’s rather unfortunate timing in terms of elections. But quite frankly, it’s irrelevant because his drill is more important than this, it’s keeping us all safe.”

With the assistance of university Academic Support/Cultural Diversity Tuition Waiver Advisor, Roy Roach, to assist in hosting the event, they began the forum with introductions from each of the candidates. Once introductions wrapped up, two questions were then presented to the candidates, to which they had to answer them individually.

The first question of the night was in relation to women’s safety on campus and how the candidate would go about properly attending to the matter. The second question was in regards to diversity and inclusion within the university.

Some verbal sparring ensued between Owen and presidential candidate Blake Andert, when Owen promoted their team’s plan to provide a properly functioning women’s center as well as a safehouse for victims of sexual assault. The cause of this divisiveness was not the idea, but rather a



Student body president and vice presidential candidates speak during a forum on Thursday evening at Rhombus Guys Brewery.

discrepancy in the quantity of fund they’re allowed to pull from.

When the questions were finally answered, the room was open for audience members to ask the candidates questions. People addressed their thoughts and concerns regarding the future of the university, to which each candidate was able to answer the questions with understanding and fluidity.

Afterwards, when the forum had finally finished up, all the candidates in attendance had a moment to reflect on the night. When asked about their expectations going into the forum and

whether those expectations were met, they had this to say.

Presidential Candidate: Cole Bachmeier—Bachmeier/Hanson

“Yeah, I was actually very pleased,” Bachmeier said. “We got actual students getting engaged and hearing their thoughts and opinions on what’s important to them. For me and Eric, that’s what we want to hear, we love to see passion and student leaders come up and say “hey, this is what I think is wrong with UND. How do you guys plan on fixing it?” Having a fruitful discussion while working together to try and get the

university moving in the right direction. To give both Eric and I’s vision for the university, but also to take things back, so we can modify our vision to make it more inclusive for all voices.

Vice Presidential Candidate: Erik Hanson—Bachmeier/Hanson

“Being an effective leader is being an effective listener,” Hanson said. “What we’ve learned through our experience in Student Government is that it’s not our vision, it’s theirs. Today we got to hear the concerns as well as visions from a number of different people from all sorts of backgrounds. The

best part about this event is we got to have these conversations.”

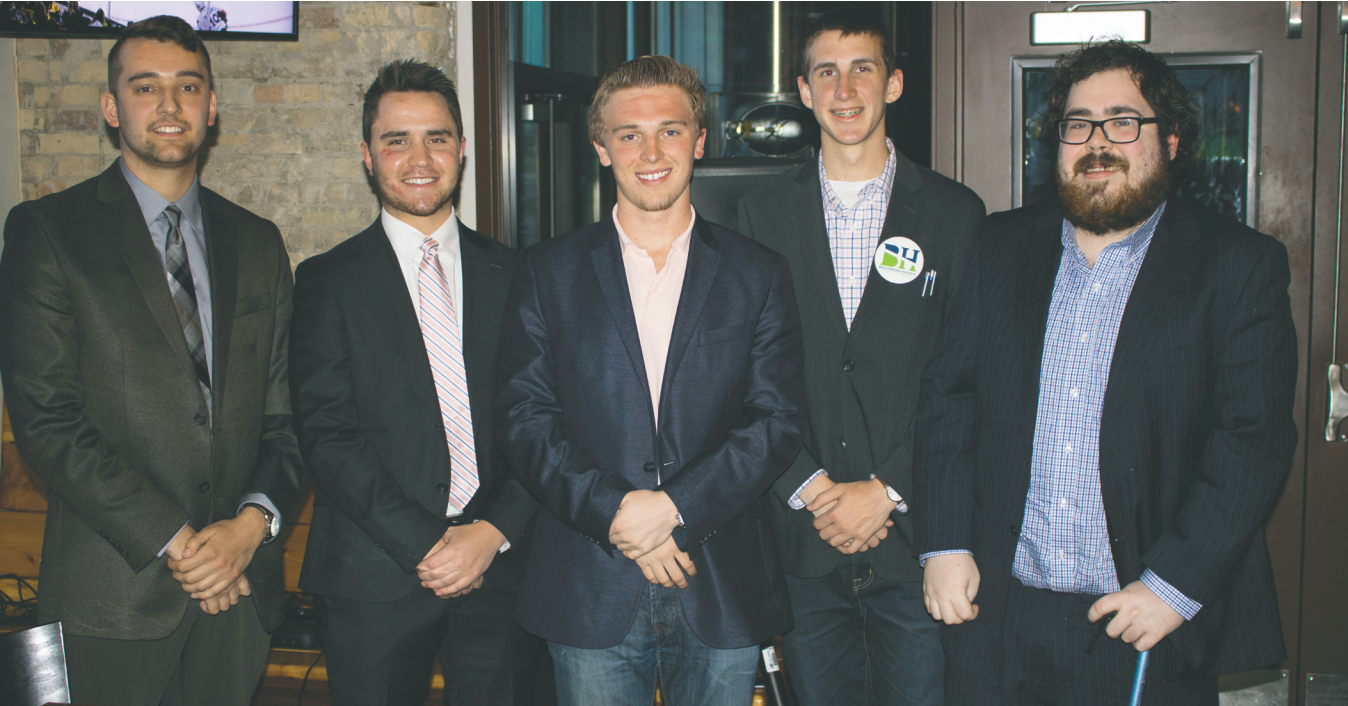
Vice Presidential Candidate: Dave Owen—Bjorklund/Owen

“I’m satisfied anytime any student wants to engage me,” Owen said. “My expectation tonight was that I would have a place to where students would be interested, and willing to engage and understand what goes on. You don’t come into these things expecting turnouts. You don’t come into these things expecting anything more or anything less than people to talk to you about real issues and to get real answers, and that’s what we accomplished tonight.”

Presidential Candidate: Blake Andert—Andert/Hanson

“My expectations coming into the night were that there would be some hot button questions and pressing topics,” Andert said. “People wanted some real world answers. They didn’t want us blanking on answers that didn’t get to the nuts and bolts of the question. I think that’s what we had tonight. I think people asked some real questions that really affect students and that they want a legitimate answer to. I was happy to give the realest answers we could.”

Vice Presidential Candidate: Nico Hanson—Andert/Hanson



President and vice presidential candidates (from left) Blake Andert, Nico Hanson, Erik Hanson, Cole Bachmeier and David Owen participated in a forum Thursday night at Rhombus Guys Brewery.

THE**DAKOTA**STUDENT

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“I think tonight was really a night where if students really wanted to have their questions answered, they could,” Hanson said. “And we were able to give them a down to earth, honest answer. What we expected coming into this, is that we would be getting some pretty pressing topics and pressing questions about some pretty heated situation going on around campus. We were prepared to answer those questions to the best of our ability and I think we did just that.”

Vote on April 12 for your candidate. Visit their Facebook pages if you would like to learn more about your candidate.

Sheldon Hatlen is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at sheldon.hatlen@und.edu

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1 | Tickets

Powell said. “It’s always a social event.” But students don’t have to go with anyone to make it a social event.

“The college experience is about making friends and meeting new people and these activities are an easy way for students to get to do that,” Kaiser said.

Besides promoting engagement and socializing, the university is also trying to promote healthy activities over drinking or partying.

“Before I came to UND, there was a big push to have evening events so students don’t go out and drink,” Kaiser said. “I don’t necessarily feel that way. I don’t think it’s an either/or proposition.”

While it isn’t stopping this type of behavior, it might still be helping.

“Lots of people go party on weekends, but when there’s free movies, that at least deters the problem,” Powell said.

The River Cinema’s Stai said she’s a big believer in this goal.

“We like to promote healthy activities,” Stai said. “We’re a family the-

ater, so to have them come to a movie, talk about a movie and talk about coming again, I like that. I like that they want to talk about good things.”

With nearly 1,800 students going to the most recent free movie night, Kaiser said that the free

tickets seem to be a success.

“We don’t want students to hear that you have to go to parties to have any fun,” Kaiser said.

Sarah Lowe, a student at Grand Canyon University, said she wishes that she had this type of op-

portunity at her school because she fully supports this program.

“It keeps them safe and from engaging in dangerous activities,” Lowe said.

While there isn’t any data proving that people are choosing the movies over partying, the success

of the event in itself is an accomplishment. It started as an idea that they were going to try a couple times to see if it would work and now they’re handing out all of the 2,000 pre-printed tickets.

“It improves retention for our students, which is

the ultimate goal. We want students to graduate,” Kaiser said. “I mean, they can’t do homework 24/7.”

Rachel Cox is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at rachel.cox@und.edu



River Cinema 15, East Grand Forks, Minnesota.

Rachel Cox / Dakota Student

Forum at The Loading Dock



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Student body presidential candidate Blake Andert (left) speaks as his running mate Nico Hanson listens during a forum Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at the Loading Dock.



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Vice presidential candidate David Owen makes a statement Tuesday, April 4, 2017 during candidate forum held at the Loading Dock.



Nick Nelson / Dakota Student

Erik Hanson, student body vice presidential candidate with Cole Bachmeier as his running mate, speaks during a candidate forum on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 in the Loading Dock.



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Syrian civil war history

Dave Owen
The Dakota Student

As many of you have heard, President Trump has decided it's now appropriate to launch missiles at Bashar al-Assad's Syrian forces, yet another intervention by the United States in what is best categorized as a brutal civil war, and as a result we need to talk about Syria.

The forces of al-Assad represented the disputed majority government, which in 2014 won its re-election for the third consecutive term by roughly 84 points, despite the oppositions contentions that the elections were less than democratic.

These elections are plagued with suspicion, as they were only taking votes from the Syrian government's controlled territories, which is anywhere from 30 to 50 percent of the country's population depending on where the refugees actually were at the time of the vote.

As a further affront to democracy, Assad in his most recent election before the civil war (2007) won 97.62 percent of the vote, suspicious to say the least. I think it's

fair to call Assad what he really is, not a democratic president, but rather a dictator over the Syrian people.

In regards to the war, President Assad will be entering his sixth consecutive year of the conflict, and has finally appeared to be consoli-

cumulatively control 35.5 percent of the country's population and will be outlined below. They are in order of power as of most recent estimates respectively:

The Syrian Opposition, backed by Turkey, U.S. (partially), France (partially), Saudi Arabia,

These four factions, could be as low as three, assuming the rumors of the alliance between Ahrar al-Sham and the Syrian Opposition are true, which cumulatively control roughly 35.5 percent of the Syrian population combined, and their influence has been de-

becomes difficult to determine what, if any, role the American's should have in the conflict, as there is no clear good guy in this civil war.

While every single American can agree that financing ISIS is a bad idea, and irregardless ISIS has become largely

to remove from power (TSO's extremist faction and Al-Qaeda).

In short, no matter who wins, civil liberties and democracy lose in this conflict. With this understanding, I hope people begin to process the war in Syria isn't about human rights, and it's not about chemical weapons; it's the U.S. wanting another cold war conflict with the Russians, and for Middle Eastern powers, it has become a proxy war for greater religious conflict of Sunni vs. Shia Islam.

If this continues, Syria will join the list of broken nations and if we continue to intervene we must bear the responsibility for.

In our modern era, we must end the cold war mentality which costs millions of lives and billions of dollars, and look inward to fix the deep problems facing our own nation, while we let the regional powers have their war to themselves.

Dave Owen is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at downen123455@yahoo.com

“In regards to the war, President Assad will be entering his sixth consecutive year of the conflict, and has finally appeared to be consolidating support against on the various, counter-government forces.”

Dave Owen

dating support against on the various, counter-government forces.

As of Jan. 2017, Assad has regained control of 65.5 percent of the Syrian population, and has financial support from Russia, Hezbollah, Iran and China.

His current military strength is estimated to 306,500 soldiers, is nearly equal to that of all opposition factions combined, and when compared to the largest opposition faction, he has nearly double their manpower. His opponents

Qatar and Libya (135,000 soldiers).

Rojava (Kurdish nationalists), backed by the combined joint-task force of; The United States, Germany, France, The United Kingdom, Belgium, Australia, Jordan and others (115,000 soldiers)

Al-Qaeda affiliates known as Ahrar al-Sham and Tahrir al-Sham backed by Qatar and Saudi Arabia (39,500 soldiers).

ISIS backed allegedly by Qatar and Saudi Arabia (20,000 soldiers)

creasing for the past two years to the point that victory is within President Assad's grasp.

As a result, this war can best be described as a proxy war between the traditional democratic west vs. the communist bloc (Western Europe vs. Russia) while simultaneously being a Middle Eastern proxy war between Shia and Sunni sects of Islam (Turkey, Saudi Arabia and Qatar vs. Iran and Hezbollah).

Furthermore, with each side having less than desirable traits, it

irrelevant in the war anyway, the question becomes what do we do about the other four.

On the one hand we have the Kurds (our current choice), who are historically abysmal at human rights, restricting the social and religious rights of non-arabs, in addition to the usual lack of women's rights.

Yet on the others we have a proven dictator willing to gas his people (Assad) or an organization whose alleged supporters we have spent the past decade trying

Life in comparison to Alien

Breanna Roen
The Dakota Student

A few weeks ago, I had recently gotten off of work and was invited to go see a movie with some friends. After careful consideration, we decided on "Life," directed by Daniel Espinosa. After finding out it was about a foreign life form from space, I was pretty excited.

I love the "Alien" franchise (even though they probably should have stopped after the first two) and was hoping for another on the edge of my seat thriller. What I did not expect was it to be, essentially, another Alien movie just under a different name. Frankly, I was a little disappointed.

The Alien franchise, began back in 1979 is considered to be Ridley Scott's most well-known film. Sigourney Weaver alongside a crew of hard working astronauts are trying to head home when all of a sudden an unwanted passenger arrives on the ship.

Critics and audiences alike agreed they probably should have stopped after two (if you don't know why, watch and find out for yourself.)

"Life" was released only a few short months before the next chapter in the Alien franchise, "Alien: Covenant" which will be released on May 19. This is the movie I have been waiting ages for considering the original director is behind the action. I enjoyed "Life" as a whole, but try not to be like me and compare it to "Alien."

The reason I say "Life" is just another "Alien" movie is because of several reasons. The first reason is they have the same diverse cast and around the same number of people who were aboard the ship working as the crew. "Life" had six people, but "Alien" had people.

The plot and story themselves are very similar with only minor differences here and there. In "Alien," the xenomorph, which is the technical term for the name alien, boarded the Nostromo without the crew knowing. In "Life," the team discovered a specimen and began conducting experiments. I will try not to give away names during these next few paragraphs, but here is fair warning of spoilers ahead.

In "Alien," we all know the classic chest-burster scene where the alien baby exits from its human host and begins its tirade of murder and massacre. Well you guessed it, murder and massacre begins and they are now on the run from the life form named, Calvin.

There are a few differences though which makes "Life" a stand alone movie but it could be better. In "Alien" we aren't aware what the alien itself looks like until halfway through the movie. The alien itself is also a terrifying force that no one should have tried to deal with.

In "Life," the life form doesn't seem to be terrifying or harmless until the environment that Calvin was contained in

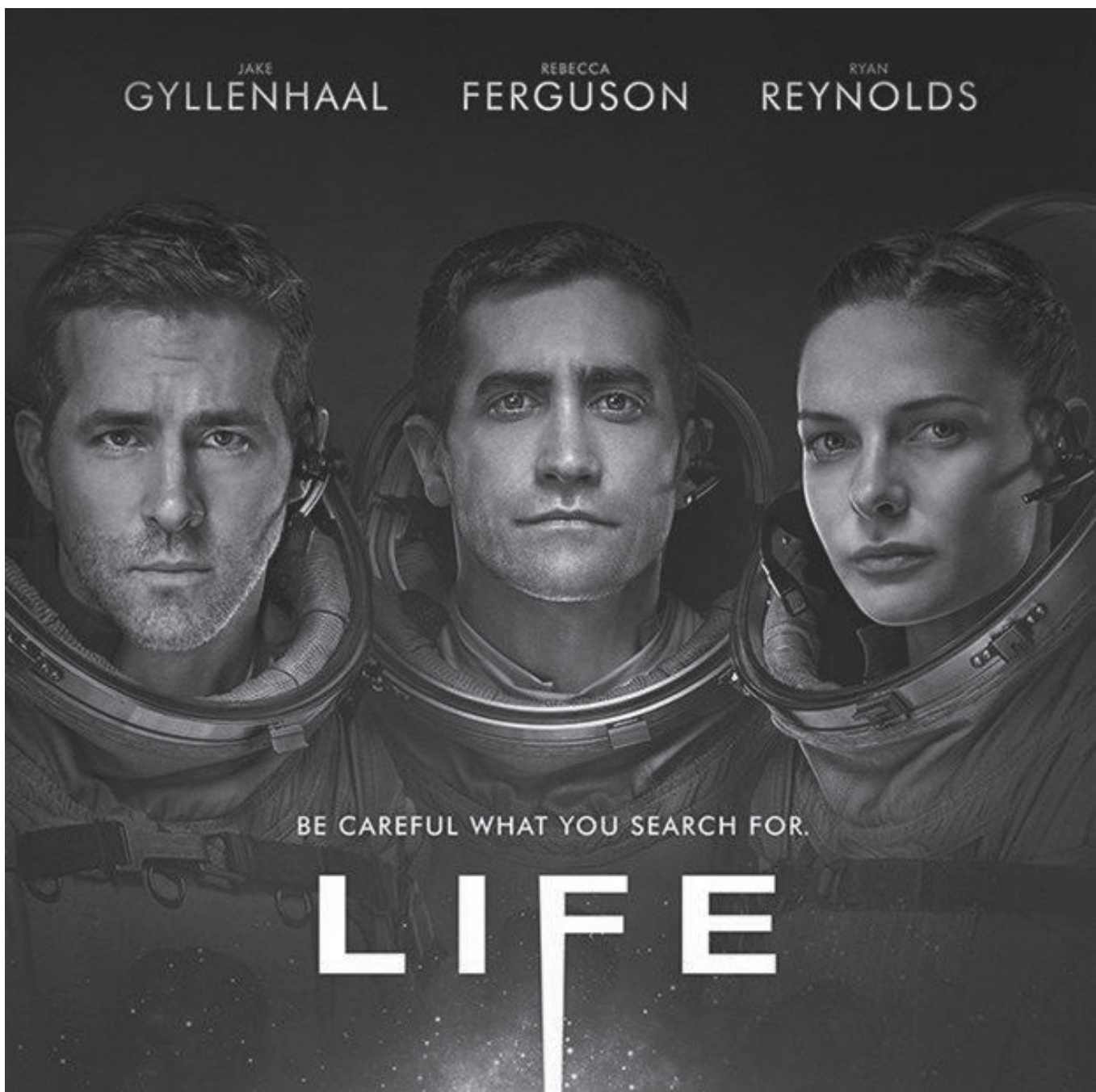


Photo courtesy of the official Facebook page of Life.

The movie poster of Life with Jake Gyllenhaal, Rebecca Ferguson and Ryan Reynolds.

changed. Calvin seemed rather small and harmless, but because I saw the trailer for the movie

I knew terror would be ensued sooner than later. Once Calvin's environment changed, he became a monster of some sorts. Obliterating everything in his path in search of oxygen and better than a human

host? When Calvin finally reveals his face we find out it is much more terrifying than what we thought.

I knew this was an alien movie, but I was truly hoping that it wouldn't be a want to be Alien franchise.

Overall, if you look at "Life" in it's own separate entity, it was an edge of your seat thriller that

left me very happy with the outcome. I was very happy with this movie as it's own being and the direction it decided to take along with an ending that is begging for a sequel.

If you haven't seen this movie, I would recommend it. Just don't make the same mistake I did and try to tie the Alien franchise and this

movie together as one.

Is it an Alien franchise wannabe or is it a masterpiece of it's own? Feel free to email me if you'd like to discuss the movie.

Breanna Roen is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at breanna.roen@und.edu.com

Opinion | Netflix original stuns viewers

Liz Kacher
The Dakota Student

It’s always exciting to see one of your favorite books turn into a movie or a TV show. I fortunately had this experience happen on Friday, Mar. 31. “13 Reasons Why,” a book published in 2007 by Jay Asher was adapted into a TV series by Netflix. It is Netflix’s newest must see series.

Back in 2007, I read the book, and it was one that was impossible to put down. Thankfully, Selena Gomez had a similar experience. We have her to thank for being dedicated to this project, and casting characters that would do justice to Jay Asher’s 2007 hit. She serves as Executive Producer (EP) for the series and also contributed to the soundtrack.

The show is an ambitious and sympathetic dive into the difficult challenges of high school. “13 Reasons Why” contextualizes and humanizes depression, grief, suicide and the after effects of sexual assault through scenarios and characters that viewers are unlikely to forget. It does a great job of depicting the strong emotions and social pressures of high school, without being condescending to any group of viewers

“13 Reasons Why” chronicles the fallout from a student’s suicide



Photo courtesy of the official Facebook page of 13 Reasons Why
The emotional TV series, 13 Reasons Why, was released on Netflix on March 31.

and then unravels the web that brought her to that decision. Hannah Baker leaves 13 audiotapes she recorded before her death which reveal the reasons she chose to take her own life. Each episode concerns a character who harmed her in some way or who could have helped her more. But Hannah does not simply cast the blame on others, she blames herself as well. “I see myself as Han-

nah so much,” EP Selena Gomez told The Hollywood Reporter. “I wanted it to feel like anyone can see themselves in this.” That’s exactly what happens when you watch this series. It’s raw, real and difficult not to connect with it on a personal level.

Katherine Langford and Dylan Minnette give outstanding performances, and they star as Hannah and Clay, who meet during their sophomore

year of high school. Clay is the type of kid who hangs out with everyone, but is ultimately a bit of a loner. Hannah is the pretty new transfer student who becomes his classmate and coworker at a movie theater.

There’s a light in Hannah that slowly fades throughout the series as she becomes worn down by life’s disappointments.

When Clay opens his front door two weeks fol-

lowing Hannah’s death to a shoebox, he’s shocked she’s left such a detailed record of her spiral downward and how many names on her list that he knows very well, which includes his own. Hannah’s voice leads the way through the tapes, counting down the group of accomplices, tormentors and ex-friends who led her to take her own life.

To understand how he fits into the puzzle, Clay has to listen to all of the tapes, even when Hannah’s story becomes difficult for him to hear. Along the way, Clay learns the secrets that people around him kept, as well as the lengths those people will go to ensure that their secrets stay hidden.

His friend Tony acts as Clay’s guide periodically throughout the series. Tony remains cryptic, however he clearly knows the secrets, since he’s already listened to all of the tapes.

A familiar name in the series amongst the adults, is Kate Walsh, who played the role of Hannah’s grieving mother. A popular favorite on the early seasons of Grey’s Anatomy, her acting in “13 Reasons Why” is outstanding and she tackles her complex role rather well.

“13 Reasons Why” also examines how adults and school officials can look the other way when it comes to many kinds

of bullying. The show depicts many scenes of parents and teachers being unaware of the toxic attitudes and behaviors that are occurring right in front of them.

“13 Reasons Why” contextualizes and humanizes depression, grief, suicide and the after effects of sexual assault through scenarios and characters that viewers are unlikely to forget.

Liz Kacher

The series has been a hot topic on social media since its release Friday, Mar. 31. It has already broken Twitter records reaching 3.4 million Tweets with 200,000 in just one hour alone.

I strongly urge you to take on “13 Reasons Why” when you need a break from studying. Whether you prefer to read a book or prefer to use your Netflix account, this story is so raw and real that it is worth giving your time.

Liz Kacher is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at mary.kacher@und.edu.com

The Strokes: Is This It

Cameron Campbell
The Dakota Student

In 2001, the band The Strokes released arguably the best and most important alternative rock albums of the 2000s. It’s clean yet punk vibe changed the face of music. Much like how The Clash rewrote punk, Nirvana rewrote grunge and The Beatles rewrote rock.

This album is flawless all the way through. When you start listening, nothing can stop you. Plus, after you listen to one song, chances are it will be stuck in your head for days.

Originally, the band wrote the songs for the *Is This It* and only knew how to play those songs. Their thought process was if they just focused on these songs they would be very tight and impress people with how good they were. It worked.

Whether it’s Fabrizio Moretti’s simple drum beats, Albert Hammond Jr.’s guitar work or Julian Casablancas’ incredibly original voice that draws you in, after listening to the album, you can’t help but to love every single aspect of “The Strokes.”

For the album itself, it is hard to pick out a few best songs or even favorite songs, since the entire album is pretty much what one looks for when looking for a great alternative rock album. However, there are a few that I play the most.

The first song is the title track, *Is This It*. It is also the opening track on the album. This song immediately sucks you into their sound. When the second chorus hits and the bass line comes in, the hooks have sunk in and there is no escaping. The song never goes nuts, but gives the amazing and driving chill sound behind the album.

Someday is one of my most played songs. The line that always catches me is:

“I’ve been working so I don’t have to try to hard.”

I feel like it the defining line of all underground rock bands. The guitar and the bass play so well off each other in this song and you can’t help to dance a bit when you hear it.

The next song is “Last Nite”. Though it wasn’t the song that got me into the band it was the song that plunged me into this album. The rasp of Casablancas’ voice catches you right at the start. The song itself is a great story

of, yes, last night. If you are looking to get into this album listen to this song first.

The next song is on all the vinyl, but not the CDs. The song is called *New York City Cops*. The chorus is “New York City Cops they ain’t to smart”. Unfortunately for the band, their hardest rocking song was taken off the album a few months after the release because of 9/11. Either way, it is one of my favorite Strokes songs.

The last song, which has closed many of their shows, is *Take it or Leave It*. This is the crowning rock song off the album after NYC Cops was taken off. The highlight of the album is Casablancas’ screaming the chorus and the hard rocking solo by Albert Hammond Jr. Needless to say it is the perfect way to end a perfect album.

Cameron Campbell is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at cameron.campbell@und.edu.com



Photo courtesy of the official Facebook page of The Strokes
The Strokes released one of the best alternative rock bands in 2001.

DAKOTA STUDENT

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Features

Go way back with Whitey's

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Jordan Hermes

The Dakota Student

Drive over the bridge and eat some amazing food at Whitey's. If you are on Demers coming from Grand Forks, immediately after you cross over the bridge into East Grand Forks, Whitey's is the first little restaurant to the left that has a classic vintage look I'm sure many would enjoy. They still have the old-fashioned font logo and glass cube trimming around the front door.

Whitey's, as we know it today, was bought in 1930 from the Duluth Brewing Company. Before Whitey's moved to the Demers location, it was a small shack on 2nd Avenue where they sold hot dogs and fast food items. It was definitely not the nightclub bar that Whitey himself was striving for.

Even after moving locations, a lot of partying and a couple floods and fires, the original decorations and bar still remain. Whitey's actually has the United State's first ever horseshoe bar made of steel, which is the same bar that is still at Whitey's today.

In the summer of 2011, new owners took over Whiteys. They gave the place a lot of updates like new floors and walls, but the tradition and originality still shines through.

The history of Whitey's is one of the reasons why I like this restaurant so much, but of course the main reason is because of how good the food tastes. Whitey's has a pretty

large menu, filled with many different American (and a couple Canadian) food options. I ordered a Canadian appetizer called poutine, which included a bed of fries and cheese curds topped with gravy.


The poutine was good, but not great. I think it sounded better than it actually was. I love greasy, salty, deep fried food so I thought this sounded like the jackpot, but when it came out the cheese curds were not what I was expecting.

They were not the cheese curds we were thinking of: hot, breaded, and deep-fried. They were just curds of mozzarella cheese, cold, not deep-fried, sprinkled on top of our fries as if they were croutons on a salad. If I wasn't such a french fry lover I probably would have hated this appetizer.

Aside from the cold cheese curds, I usually enjoy whatever food item I order at Whitey's. For my main dish, I had the BBQ pork mac and cheese, and this was to die for. It was baked macaroni and cheese with a layer of melted cheese on top, covered in pulled pork and BBQ sauce, topped with fried onions.

My mouth is watering just writing about this dish. I was nervous it wouldn't be cheesy or saucy enough, I like my food to be very flavorful, but it exceeded my expectations. I was craving a BBQ comfort food meal and this definitely but the craving.

Whitey's is also a great



Kyle Zimmerman / The Dakota Student

Whitey's is a restaurant with historical importance, having existed in East Grand Forks, Minn. since 1925.

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Jordan Hermes is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at jordan.hermes@ndus.edu

Whitey's business hours run from 11 a.m. to midnight on Sunday through Thursday, and Fridays and Saturdays they are open until 1 a.m. Whitey's might not be the raging night club for college students on Friday and Saturday nights like it once was, but it is still a must see place in the Grand Forks area.

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"Boardwalk brought me back to the local seafood joints"

Stephanie Hollman
The Dakota Student

Located in downtown East Grand Forks and surrounded by a myriad of dining options, Boardwalk Bar and Grill has got some competition when it comes to the local culinary scene. It's variety of better-than-average tasting and moderately-priced American entrees, however, puts it above most when it comes to casual dining downtown.

When I arrived there on a busy Saturday afternoon, I was welcomed with a family-friendly atmosphere and a cheery hostess who sat my party in a booth of the main dining area. Customers filled the restaurant and everyone seemed to be having a good time, either chatting in the multiple dining areas or watching local sports while enjoying a drink

at the bar. Overall, the layout of the restaurant, tall and plush booths and dim lighting created an intimate atmosphere that encourages conversation between restaurant-goers.

To start, my party ordered the seafood lavhosh (\$13) from the seasonal section of the menu, which features a rotation of seasonal appetizers, lahvos, and "Boardwalk Favorites." The traditional Armenian flatbread was topped with imitation crab, baby shrimp, chopped scallops, and melted havarti cheese. It was large enough to serve as an appetizer for a group of three, but flavor-wise, the seafood taste lacks when compared other kinds of lavosh I've had which were topped with meat. For that reason, I recommend trying the cheeseburger, which is described to be loaded

with all the makings of a burger, the chicken bacon ranch (CBR) which features grilled chicken and bacon bits, or even the veggie lavosh.

The restaurant's namesake, the Boardwalker burger (\$12) was served open-faced and with a hearty serving of steaming hot french fries. The burger consists of pulled pork, lettuce, tomato and mayo. All of the vegetables were crisp and fresh, and the pulled pork was melt-in-your-mouth divine. The sauce was delicious, but it was a bit overdone, as the entire burger fell apart after a few bites. I suggest using any leftover bun to soak up the pulled pork sauce to maximize your experience. For \$2, other side options include fried green beans, sweet fries, onion rings, mashed potatoes and a house salad.

I steer clear of ordering salads when dining

Boardwalk Review



out, but when I saw the words "ahi tuna" on the menu, I decided to order the ahi tuna salad. At \$14, the salad was pricey. It was the second priciest item on the entire menu, after only the 10 oz. sirloin. Despite the price, the salad was completely worth it.

Grand Forks is a landlocked town, and I knew when I moved here that fresh seafood was a culinary sacrifice that I had to make. The seared ahi tuna at Boardwalk brought me back to the local seafood joints

in my beach-city hometown. Cooked medium-rare, the flavor of the meat was retained and complemented with a light lemon pepper seasoning. The generous slice of tuna sat atop a bed of fresh spring greens, mixed in with sweet mandarins and topped with toasted almonds. All of this fresh deliciousness came together with a light and gingery Asian dressing. If you are ever craving something healthy and want something with flavors that will take you

away to a coastal city for a moment, treat yourself to this salad.

Overall, Boardwalk Bar and Grill's family-friendly atmosphere, quality menu items and excellent customer service makes it a solid option for casual dining in the downtown Grand Forks/East Grand Forks area.

Stephanie Hollman is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. She can be reached at stephshollman@gmail.com

Go Ask Alice, a realistic situation comes to life

Ben Godfrey
The Dakota Student

Released in 1971, "Go Ask Alice" is an account of the experiences of a girl who is introduced to drugs at 15 and eventually dies of an overdose. The story is presented in the form of a diary kept by the unnamed narrator, and was originally marketed as the writing of a real person. Though the author is credited as anonymous, it's generally accepted to be a fictional work by American therapist and author Beatrice Sparks.

Intended for an audience of teenagers and young adults, "Go Ask Alice" centers around the challenges of growing up and the way that drugs can distort one's worldview and personal life. Though the narrator is an average young girl with big dreams and curiosities about the world, the diary she keeps holds a much darker story than that of the average teenager. However, in today's world, drug use is becoming more and more normalized in the lives of young people. The book has received attention for its graphic depictions of sexual abuse and life on the streets.

The diarist begins writing at 14, when her father gets a dean position at a college in a new location. When she goes home for the summer to stay with her grandparents, the narrator meets an acquaintance from her old school, who invites her to a party that

weekend. At the party, the diarist, now 15, unknowingly takes LSD and immediately falls in love with the euphoria and the madness of it. She then begins experimenting with marijuana and speed, and everything is wonderful for her. After losing her virginity while stoned, she worries that she may be pregnant. At the same time, her grandfather has a minor heart attack. To deal with her anxieties, the diarist develops a taste for sleeping pills.

Upon returning home for the start of the school year, the narrator befriends a cool, drug-using girl and the two begin selling for a couple of college students. Soon, the girls decide to run away to San Francisco, where they work at a boutique for an older woman named Sheila. The woman invites the girls to glamorous parties where they begin taking drugs again. Eventually the relationship becomes sinister as Sheila gives the girls heroine and sexually abuses them with the help of her friends. The traumatized girls run away to another California town and start their own boutique, which they quickly tire of and decided to return home. However, life back at home is difficult for the narrator and she quickly runs off again, this time to Oregon.

Life on the road this time around is nightmarish. The narrator's diary entries become sporadic and scatter-brained. She finds herself living on the streets



"Go Ask Alice," since its publication in 1971, has been a controversial book that has shocked it's readers.

or with whoever will take her in. Working as a prostitute, the diarist spends her free time sitting around with other burned out people, "minds exploding and hands out" with nothing to do but hate her situation and the world in general.

Eventually she is able to return home to her family and achieve a sort of normalcy, although she is alienated at her school. She swears off drugs, but is caught in a no man's land between the drug-using "grass gang" and the non-using "straight" kids. One day, she is unknowingly dosed with LSD (again) and this trip is so bad that she is never the same again.

The writing style of the book is captivating. While

it may have been written by an adult, the voice coming out of the diary entries truly sounds like that of a damaged, sometimes hopeful, sometimes hopeless teenager. While her graphic and dark story may not be entirely relatable to most young people, it does contain fantastic thoughts

about life, love, death, happiness and pain. As amazon.com puts it, "the torture and hell of adolescence has rarely been captured as it is in this classic diary of an anonymous, addicted teen."

I don't read a lot of books, but this one was difficult to put down. While it

may be over 30 years old, the critically acclaimed "Go Ask Alice" stands the test of time and makes for a great read.

Ben Godfrey is a staff writer for The Dakota Student. He can be reached at benjamin.godfrey@und.edu

Book Review





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Science ethics and dystopian society

Nick Sallen
The Dakota Student

If you're interested in dystopian societies, post-apocalypse, science fiction, biology, mystery and crime novels, or stories of adventure, then "Oryx and Crake" might be the next book you want to read. The novel is authored by the longtime literature veteran Margaret Atwood, who is best known for her novels and poetry. You may have heard about some of her more popular novels, such as: "A Handmaid's Tale," "The Blind Assassin," and "Cat's Eye."

"Oryx and Crake" is a story broken up into two parts, the present and the past. As the story un-

folds on the pages, readers are brought back and forth between the two timelines. Presently, we are exposed to this post-apocalyptic wasteland of a world through the eyes of Snowman, who appears to be the last human on the planet. Snowman is not alone though, as he is accompanied by a band of human-like creatures known as Crakers. Crakers are the bio-engineered successors of humans... at least according to Crake, the ethically-flawed science genius who created them. The creations need very little to continue living, and it is a challenge for Snowman to find food and water for himself. After hearing stories about their creator from Snowman, the Crakers begin

to see Snowman as a deity. Snowman's real name is Jimmy, and in his past, Jimmy was a sex, cigarette, and alcohol addict with two real friends and virtually no family. The story of the past is told through Jimmy's eyes. As the novel progresses, we learn more about what caused the apocalypse and gain insights into why the world is the way that it is.

Reading through "Oryx and Crake," I was interested in the two settings Margaret Atwood created, and how the novel blends genres. The combination of genres makes the storyline very memorable and unique. Atwood choosing to write the novel from the perspective of one person across two different timelines (present

and past) is a bit difficult to keep up with at first, and I think the problem could have been solved by fleshing out the characters a bit more, especially Oryx.

I thought Oryx was more useful as a plot device than a full-fledged character. Her mysteriousness kept me wanting to learn more in the beginning, but, ultimately, her purpose to cause chaos between Jimmy/Snowman and Crake is revealed in the latter pages, and nothing more about her I found all that interesting.

Crake was my favorite character. He is marvelously disturbing character who values the progress of science more than humanity itself. He is the future Dr. Frankenstein with a plethora of tools which

allow him to manipulate genetic material into wonderful and sinister life forms. I could relate to his character the most because I am a biology major.

I liked "Oryx and Crake" a lot so I'd give it four out of five stars. It wasn't a very long read and the action kept me glued to my seat after trudging through the first few chapters. The two timelines can be difficult to grasp at first, but it is easy by the end. As for the

conclusion, I wish Atwood would've tied off the loose ends instead of leaving it up to the reader to think about what Snowman does after the cliffhanger ending. Atwood has two other novels, "The Year of The Flood," and "MaddAddam" which follow-up on the events in "Oryx and Crake."

Nick Sallen is the editor-in-chief for the Dakota Student. He can be reached at nicholas.sallen@und.edu

Book Review



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Daniel Yun / Dakota Student

Molli Detloff is a junior thrower on the UND women’s track and field team. Detloff recently placed first in the women’s hammer throw event at the Mondo Team Challenge in Sacrameto, Calif. on April 1, 2017.

Finding her groove

Molli Detloff

Thomas McCullough
Dakota Student

Molli Detloff is a thrower on the women’s track and field team. A junior this year, Molli is from Elk River, Minn. and is double majoring in rehabilitation/human services and psychology. The Dakota Student sat down with her this week to ask about her experience being an athlete at UND:

DS: How did you get started in track and field?

MD: In about seventh grade I went out for middle school track and the varsity track coach said, “Nope, you’re coming on the varsity team.” And I originally was a sprinter. The varsity team suggested that I try throwing.

DS: A sprinter? So you’re pretty fast then?
MD: *laughs* Yeah!

DS: Could you describe your track and field event in more detail?

MD: Yeah, I throw hammer, discus and shot put. Hammer is like a shot put but on a metal wire with a metal handle, a discus is like a metal frisbee and a shot is like a metal ball.

DS: You mentioned that you used to be a sprinter, do you enjoy throwing more than sprinting?

MD: Oh I hated sprinting, I only ran because I was fast! I love throwing though. Throwing is all about technique, so you can continually work on things to get better. Even where I am now I

more year) and I just beat that too with a throw of 61.56 metres.

DS: Do you have any other specific goals for this season?

MD: I have specific

in the West Region, and then the top 12 go to National’s from there. Another thing to note is that if someone wins the Big Sky conference, they’re not guaranteed to go to Regional’s. It’s just the top

but I really enjoyed it and I enjoy watching both the women’s and men’s basketball teams play here at UND.

DS: How do you manage the balance

in my classes. It’s a good community with a small town atmosphere and the benefits of a medium sized university.

DS: What are your career goals after you graduate?

MD: I want to be a high school counselor. After I graduate UND I want to go into the master’s degree program for school counseling, and I’m hoping to do that in only two years online instead of four years here at UND. Then hopefully I’ll become a school counselor and also be able to coach. Ideally, I would like to move back to Minnesota and get a job somewhere near the Twin Cities.

Coming up this week, the women’s outdoor track and field team is scheduled next for the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate meet on Thursday, April 13.

As Molli continues her career here at UND, keep an eye on her progress; not only is she known to break school records, but raise the bar for UND

Thomas McCullough is a staff writer for Dakota Student. He can be reached at thomas.mccullough@und.edu

“In about seventh grade I went out for middle school track and the varsity track coach said, “Nope, you’re coming on the varsity team.” And I originally was a sprinter. The varsity team suggested that I try throwing.”

Molli Detloff- Track and Field Thrower

still have a lot that I can improve on, so I feel like there’s no real limits.

DS: You’ve had a few personal records (PR’s) this year, do you keep track of that kind of stuff?

MD: Yeah, before this season I didn’t have the school discus record yet, but in the first meet of the season I threw that. The UND school record was 52.99 metres, and I threw 54.33 metres. I had the hammer school record from my freshman year (I redshirted my sopho-

marks that I want to hit that I typically keep to myself just for internal motivation, but I want to make it to Nationals. My freshman year I made it to the West Regional of Nationals. National’s is split up between West and the East, and I placed 18th in the West but they only take the top 12. This year, it would be awesome if I made it to Nationals.

DS: So are National’s an individual competition?

MD: Yes, West Regional’s takes the top 50

50 marks throughout the season, so you could win the Big Sky but not be in the top 50 in the West. It all just depends on how you do during the season.

DS: What are some of your hobbies?

MD: I really enjoy being outdoors. I like to kayak, canoe, hike. I love going to Glacier National Park. I like watching sports, especially basketball. Basketball is also my favorite sport to play besides track and field. I played it in high school and I wasn’t that good,

between school and sports?

MD: I feel like it’s something I’ve done my whole life, so at this point it’s just what I do. You have to find time to get your schoolwork done with practice and all that, and just make it work.

DS: In general, what is your favorite aspect of UND?

MD: I like UND because it’s big enough but not too big. I still know pretty much every athlete on campus, and I can easily make friends that are

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UND bids farewell to Boeser

Fighting Hawks forward Brock Boeser signs with Vancouver Canucks

Jake Andersen
Dakota Student

Brock Boeser wasted no time getting acquainted with his new team.

Just a day after his UND squad lost a heartbreaking NCAA quarterfinal game to Boston University in double overtime, Boeser took his talents to Minneapolis, Minn. to take on the Minnesota Wild as a member of the Vancouver Canucks.

The Canucks signed the star UND forward to a three-year entry level contract and threw him into his first NHL game in his home state, starting him on the first line alongside superstar twins Henrik and Daniel Sedin.

His play did not disappoint, as Boeser scored his first goal in a 4-2 winning effort over the Wild.

Of course, Boeser's strong first game comes as no surprise since UND is known for developing NHL ready players. Toews, Parise, Oshie, Zajac and Stafford, to name a few.

Yet, as Boeser continues to make his presence felt as the newest NHL member from UND, he is not the only former UND player that is starting his NHL career with success.

After last season's championship run, UND lost nine players, including five early to the NHL and as it turns out, a few have put themselves in position to have long, successful NHL careers.

With that, let's look back at those members of the 2016 UND championship squad that have already made their mark in the pros.

Drake Caggiula

After leading UND's 2016 championship squad in points with 51, Caggiula graduated from UND without being drafted by an NHL team. Nevertheless, his highly decorated UND career, including four straight seasons of increased point production (16, 24, 36, 51), made him one of the most sought after college free agent prospects in the country.

After weighing his options, including Dave Hakstol's Philadelphia Flyers, Caggiula settled on a two-year deal with the Edmonton Oilers in the beginning



Former UND forward Brock Boeser fires a shot against Omaha earlier this season at the Ralph Engelstad Arena.

of May. At the time, Caggiula said that he liked the young roster as well as the opportunity to grow with a young team.

While it was expected that Caggiula would start his first professional season with Edmonton's AHL affiliate, Caggiula impressed Oilers coach Todd McLellan from the beginning.

"He's come to make the team, he's come to take somebody's job," McLellan said, talking about Caggiula with the Edmonton Sun. "I'm getting more and more confident in playing him every night in any situation. He's a very competitive guy, controls the pace of a shift, competes all over the rink, pays the price to get things done."

McLellan's comments came in the midst of a successful preseason for Caggiula that put him in position to be the team's third line center. Unfortunately, Caggiula injured his hip prior to the start of the season and was out for the first month of the year.

Once healed from the injury, Caggiula took his place on the Oilers roster right away in late November and scored his first goal of his NHL against the Anaheim Ducks on Dec. 3, eight games into his career.

"Sigh of relief. Nice to get that one out of the way," Caggiula said, discussing his first goal with the Edmonton Sun. "Obviously a dream come true, something you think about when you're playing in the backyard."

For the season, Caggiula has recorded six goals and 10 assists in 53 games. While he has had stretches of inconsistency, he has six of his 16 points in his last eight games, working his way into the Oilers' second power play unit. He has mainly been a part of the Oilers third and fourth lines.

Caggiula looks to continue to be a factor for the Oilers as they make their first Stanley Cup Playoff appearance since 2006 in April.

Nick Schmaltz

Caggiula's linemate at UND, Nick Schmaltz, has enjoyed success as a member of the Chicago Blackhawks. Forgoing his junior and senior seasons at UND, Schmaltz signed a three-year entry level deal with the Blackhawks, who drafted him 20th overall in the 2014 NHL Draft.

Although signed to a highly successful NHL team, including the likes of Patrick Kane and former UND star Jonathan Toews, Schmaltz was promised an opportunity to start the year with the NHL club.

"They have salary-cap issues so they need younger guys to play," Schmaltz said to NHL.com reporter Brian Hedger after signing the three-year deal. "I think it's a great time to turn pro, and I think a lot of young guys are going to be in the NHL this year. Hopefully, I can work for a job."

Schmaltz worked his way onto the club as a left wing, yet struggled from the beginning posting only four points in 26 games. Through

that time, Schmaltz saw time on the fourth line and even had the chance to play alongside Toews and Kane on the top line, but still was not able to break out. This prompted the Blackhawks to send the former UND star to AHL Rockford to improve his game in early December.

In 12 games with AHL Rockford, Schmaltz showed noticeable improvement as he scored six goals and three assists and was recalled to the Blackhawks a month after being sent down.

This time, Schmaltz started to find his place with the team, especially after the All-Star break. Since the break, Schmaltz has recorded 17 points in 22 games compared to seven points in 32 games prior to the break.

The strong play has Schmaltz on the top line with Toews and right wing Richard Panik. For the year, Schmaltz has six goals and 20 assists for 26 points in 55 games and will play in his first Stanley Cup Playoff in April.

Troy Stecher

Stecher signed a two-year entry level deal with the Canucks following UND's championship season that saw him lead the club among defensemen in points (8-21-29). Stecher signed as a college free agent since he was never drafted into the NHL.

"I signed pretty quickly with Vancouver but Drake went on the tours (cities) to see the facilities," Stecher said to the Edmonton Journal, referring to how quickly he signed compared to Caggiula. "At the end there were three (NHL) teams that were all good options but Vancouver had the extra factor of being home. Sometimes that can work against you, players don't want to do that but it's tough to beat the city of Vancouver."

Known for being a strong offensive defenseman, Stecher has provided that advertised offensive production in his rookie season. In fact, Stecher tops Canucks defensemen in points posting three goals and 21 assists for 24 points in 65 games, which is also fifth among rookie defensemen this season.



While Stecher started the year in the AHL, he joined the roster early in the season due to injuries to Vancouver defensemen and among last year's group of UND players that left for the NHL, he leads them in games played. He has also asserted himself on Vancouver's top defensive pairing.

Although he has a +/- of -10, Stecher has played 20:01 minutes per game, eighth among rookies, while playing on a young team that is near the bottom of the Western Conference at 69 points.

Most recently, Stecher injured his shoulder after taking a hard hit into the boards against the Winnipeg Jets on Sun. March 26, but reports suggest he will make it back to the team sooner than expected.

That being said, Stecher has a solid start to his NHL career and along with Boeser, he will look to lead the Canucks back to their winning ways in the near future.

continues on page 12



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Sports

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W/M Track and Field

Pacific Coast Intercollegiate
4/13 @ TBA - Long Beach, Calif.

W Track and Field

Bryan Clay Invitational
4/14 @ TBA - Azusa, Calif.

M Track and Field

Mt. SAC Relays
4/14 @ TBA Cerritos, Calif.

M Golf

@ Western Illinois
4/14-4/15 @ TBA

M Tennis

@ Northern Arizona
4/14 @ 1:00 p.m.

11 | Boeser

Paul LaDue

Prior to Boeser, LaDue was the latest former UND player to make his NHL debut. Signed in August to a one-year entry level contract by the Los Angeles Kings, who took him in the sixth round of the 2012 NHL draft, the Kings called him up from AHL Ontario on Feb. 1.

LaDue made his NHL debut on Feb. 8 in a 5-0 losing effort to the

Tampa Bay Lightning, but impressed his coach.

"I think he moved the puck really well and he skated really well, and with every young player when they play their [first game], I'm sure there's some nerves, but I think our veteran defensemen have got to be better players for us. I don't think there's any problem with how he played," Sutter said after the game to the LA Kings Insider.

Before being called up, LaDue carried the

AHL squad on the defensive end, posting 18 points, including six goals in 36 games. Considered a two-way defensemen, the Kings were in desperate need for the defensemen following an injury to former UND defenseman Matt Greene and the waiving of veteran defenseman Tom Gilbert.

In his short time with the Kings, LaDue has five points in 18 games, yet is still in search of his first NHL goal. LaDue will look to get that first

NHL goal, as well as close out the year on a high note in the club's final games of the season.

The Rest

The rest of the group that left UND early or graduated has not made it to the NHL level yet.

Defenseman Keaton Thompson and forward Luke Johnson are currently playing for the AHL affiliates of the Anaheim Ducks and Chicago Blackhawks, respectively. Thompson has three goals and 10

assists for 13 points in 44 games with AHL San Diego and Johnson has three goals and nine assists for 16 points in 64 games for AHL Rockford.

Forwards Bryn Chyzyk and Coltyn Sanderson have spent their time in the ECHL, a step below the AHL. Chyzyk has played in 30 games for the Indy Fuel, a Blackhawks affiliate, recording five goals and seven assists for 12 points. He also spent two games with AHL Rockford. Sanderson

has played seven games with no points for the Idaho Steelheads, but is currently not on the roster and looking for another affiliate to sign with.

Colten St. Clair is not playing for any NHL affiliate, but recently accepted a position as the head coach of the Phoenix Knights, a junior hockey league team.

Jake Andersen is a staff writer for Dakota Student.
He can be reached at jacob.t.andersen@und.edu

Bettman says no to Olympics

Jack Harvey Dakota Student

This past week, after speculation of what the choice would be, the National Hockey League has decided its' players will not represent their countries at the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman has stated the main reason the owners would not prefer to have players go play in the Olympics due to timing. The break in schedule would happen in a window of opportunity for the league with football ending and baseball yet to begin.

This will be the first time the NHL has not participated in the Winter Olympics since 1998, with a total of 706 players attending, an average of 141 per season.

As the owners found this a success the players were none too happy about this decision.

"It's brutal," Carolina Hurricanes defenseman Justin Faulk said, who played for the United States in 2014. "I don't think there's any reason we shouldn't be going."

Washington Capitals forward Alex Ovechkin, has stated despite the NHL's non-Olympic decision he will still play for Russia, even if it means leaving the NHL.

"I haven't changed my mind, and I won't," Ovechkin said, "I'm pretty sure everything is going to be fine. Next year's schedule is not out there yet."

Many players sited how hypocritical the NHL is about players getting injured, having a more difficult schedule, and also expanding their fan base.

"Guys get injured in the World Cup, but that's O.K.," Marc-Edouard Vlasic said, referring to the league-endorsed global World Cup of Hockey returning last Sept. "Shorter summers, longer seasons, but that's O.K."

"Knowing that the league wants to get into the Asian markets, it maybe would have been smart to go over there and show the best players," Vancouver Canucks forward Henrik Sedin said.

Sedin is referring to how the NHL has announced NHL exhibition games to be played in China this coming preseason.



AP Photo/Mark J. Terrill
National Hockey League Commissioner Gary Bettman speaks during a news conference at Staples Center, Saturday, Jan. 28, 2017, in Los Angeles. The NHL All-Star Game is scheduled to be played at Staples Center on Sunday.

With the outlash from players question the greedy move of NHL owners, there's a potential of players going overseas next season to be eligible for the Olympics. The possibility of Captials Captain Alex Ovechkin heading back to Russia

and play alongside Pavel Datysuk and Ilya Kovalchuk on SKA St. Petersburg is put a grim future in the hands of the Captials.

In 2014, a total of 241 players of the 300 selected for the the Olympics were a member of an NHL

franchise. Stand out teams included Canada and the US with 25 players each, Sweden with 24, 15 Russians, 15 from the Czech Republic, and 14 from Finland to name the top countries.

With now a lack of NHL players, the US Hockey team should look to sending players that they would normally send to World Juniors. The tournament showcases the best young players in the world for each country giving a glimpse into the future. Now after the decision to not let NHL players participate, the future is now for these guys.

Before all this happened, Gary Bettman was already a villain to the fans. To some he ruined the Winter Classic having all these outdoor games every year also featuring the same five teams playing in the Classic. Now to add to his resume is contradicting the global expansion of the top hockey league in the world by not allowing the best players in the world represent their country at the Olympics in Korea in 2018 as well

as potentially China in 2022.

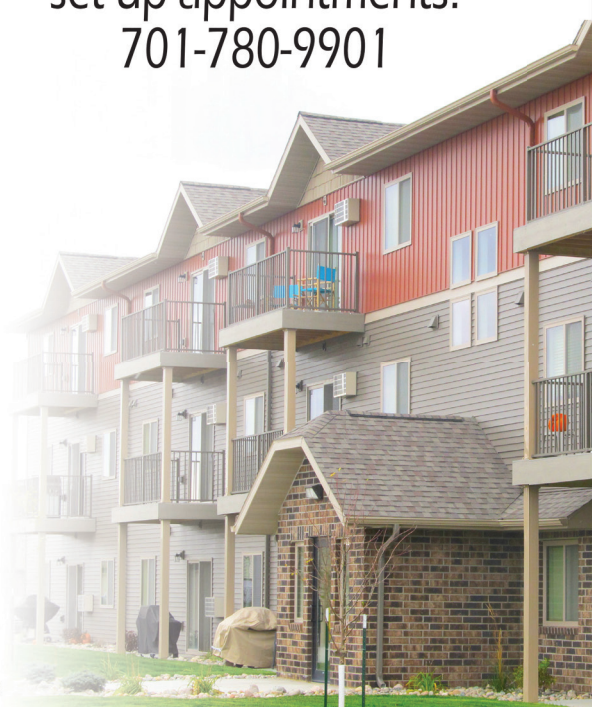
The decision is robbing the fans of their favorite tradition. Every four years Americans get together to support their country. Wild fans and Blackhawks fans cheer together in hopes of USA gold. If the games are early in the day, you set an alarm to get up to watch that game. The saying has always been "For club and country." With this decision it should now be "for club and maybe your country if it's a financial and marketing gain for club and league."

Now if you've ever watched the Stanley Cup finals, you know the drill. The team wins the Cup, they all go crazy, they bring out the Stanley, Bettman is introduced and the fans will boo him so loud that you can't even hear him. Now one thing is for sure is that if this decision stands, you'll never hear a louder chorus of boos and jeers in your life.

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